



Tribal Talk - Tule River Tribe El Niño Preparedness

The Tule River Indian Reservation in Porterville, California recently established an Office of Emergency Management December 2015. Since then, all emergency response departments have been vigorously coordinating their efforts with Tule River Office of Emergency Management Interim Director Joe Boy Perez.

The Tule River Tribe's key resources and Departments that have been instrumental in playing a huge role to prepare, plan, respond, and mitigate efforts in flood control and preparedness against El Niño are:

- Tule River Tribal Council Administration
- Public Works Department
- Work Force Innovative Opportunity Act
- Department of Public Safety
- Tule River Fire Department
- McCarthy Ranch
- Natural Resources

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Tule River Tribal Representatives

- Environmental Office
- Facilities Maintenance, and Public Relations.

The Tule River Tribal Council has been supportive in allowing its departments to coordinate needed resources to prevent flooding on the reservation. Each of the participating departments is vital as they all specialize in different aspects of the prevention.

However, one common thread they all share is their selfless, hardworking staff: directors, managers, supervisors, foremen, and employees. They serve and protect their community from disaster and deserve our recognition.



Special points of interest:

- *El Niño Preparedness and Resources*
- *Tree Mortality Resources*
- *Protecting Sacred Sites in Emergencies*
- *Grant Workshops & Opportunities*
- *Training Opportunities*

Tribal Talk - Tule River Tribe

El Niño Preparedness — continue

Special recognition goes to the Public Works Department and new Director Babalola Makinde, Foreman Ronald Eugene, Foreman Chris Sierra and all the employees that currently work and represent that department. Public Works, just like every other department, has gone above and beyond in opening its equipment and any of its supplies to get the job done. Terri Dobson, Director of Workforce Innovative Opportunity Act has been very helpful in assisting the employees she has hired to do sandbagging for the community and coordinating her resources with the Office of Emergency Management and Facilities Maintenance Department Director Michael Chaparro. A few employees that need to be recognized for their efforts in serving its community on the Tule River Indian Reservation and role models for its community were:

Michael Munoz, Edward Montoya, and Marie Franco. These three employees all had team player skills, dedication, commitment, and hard worker traits.

Facilities Maintenance Director, Michael Chaparro has also been open to help and assist with his equipment and supplies and supervision when needed.

McCarthy's Robert Parker has allowed Martin Lopez, one of his biggest assets to contribute to the efforts of flood preparedness. Martin Lopez has not only demonstrated his responsibility to perform job tasks, but has also brought his innovative strategies to the table just like the rest of the employees mentioned.



Tule River Reservation



Tule River Reservation

Interim Director Paul Vizcano, Department of Public Safety and its employees are also a part of the coordination efforts in flood prevention as well. Chief Richard Brown, Captain Aaron Franco and the entire Tule River Fire Department have always been involved with serving and assisting the Tule River Indian Reservation with any of its needs in the event of flood or any other natural disaster the Reservation may encounter.

Tule River uses the model of One Team, One Fight to ensure the safety of its community.



*Article by: Joeboy Perez,
Interim Emergency Management Director*

Tribal Talk - Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians

Tree Mortality Crisis

In March of 2015, the Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians requested assistance from the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the USFS Stanislaus office to assist in a survey and report of ponderosa pines suddenly fading in large groups within the reservation. Dead trees are safety hazards for public and property, but we were concerned that more trees would continue to be lost to forest pests as the drought situation continued.

The Tuolumne Rancheria is located in Tuolumne County and ranges from 1800-2500 feet in elevation, in the Sierra Nevada Foothills. Forested areas are primarily canyon live oak grey pine type, with ponderosa pines growing in the upper elevation and wet drainages. Through the Forest Protection Act, the local USFS entomologist conducted a survey and reported approximately 10 dead or dying trees within an 800 acre parcel. Most of which were located near homes and along creeks or drainages. A year later we had them come back out and do a second survey and over 100 trees were identified. After the first survey (March 2015) we requested assistance from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Pacific Regional Office and they provided not only technical assistance but funds for

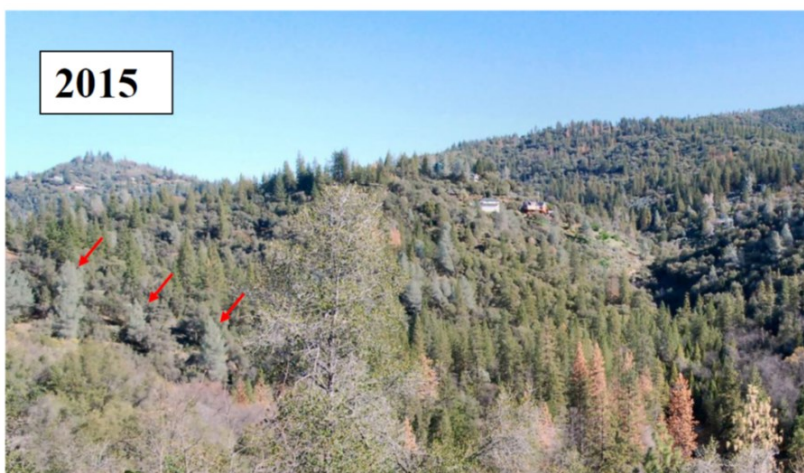


Figure 1. Dead and fading pines along Turnback Creek drainage, photo taken on March 3, 2015. Note: Grey pines apparently unscathed by this phase of the drought are marked with arrows. Some of the dead trees seen in figure 1 have already been harvested.



Figure 2. Recently dead and fading ponderosa pines along Turnback Creek drainage, taken on January 28, 2016.

emergency removal of hazard trees near residences. This work involved environmental compliance and following a Timber Cutting permit we already had in place. We successfully removed 10 trees that would have fallen on tribal members homes. Since that first phase of removal, our fire crews have been

removing trees that have been identified. Our Timber Cutting permit had to be extended and we worked with the BIA Pacifica Regional staff to ensure compliance. Through our work on tree mortality, we have learned there are all sorts of options that Tribes should consider. First and foremost, work with your BIA staff in

Tribal Talk - Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians

Tree Mortality Crisis - continue

Natural Resources and Forestry as they can help with technical assistance and possible funding.

Reach out to your County OES as they are probably dealing with tree mortality as well and may have information about additional resources.

PG&E often have rights of way or easements through tribal land and are responsible for dead or dying trees that would impact power lines. Reach out to their vegetation management program and find out if they have already been out to your community to survey and mark trees or if they plan to. Ask for maps and locations of the trees they will remove.

As an active partner in the Tuolumne County Tree Mortality Task Force, we participate in monthly meetings and work directly with County OES staff on issues.

Tuolumne County was the first county within the state that applied for CDAA or California Disaster Assistance Act funds that Tribes can apply for under county-approved applications. We are currently identifying those trees that would impact critical infrastructure such as roads, powerlines, water storage etc. and are working with the county to address any concerns. In addition to the county task force, the Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk, along with the Tule River Tribe, sits on the Governors State wide Tree Mortality Task Force and meets monthly in Sacramento.

As a Resource Work Group member, we participate in the discussions about equipment placement and prioritization. The Task Force is concentrating on the Southern Sierra Nevada and includes the counties of Tuolumne,

Mariposa, Madera, Fresno, Fresno, Tulare and Kings. The Task Force is comprised of state and federal, local governments, utilities and various stakeholders who are charged with finding solutions to the growing bark beetle epidemic. There are nine federally recognized tribes with trust land as well as public domain allotments within the Southern Sierra Region that the Task Force



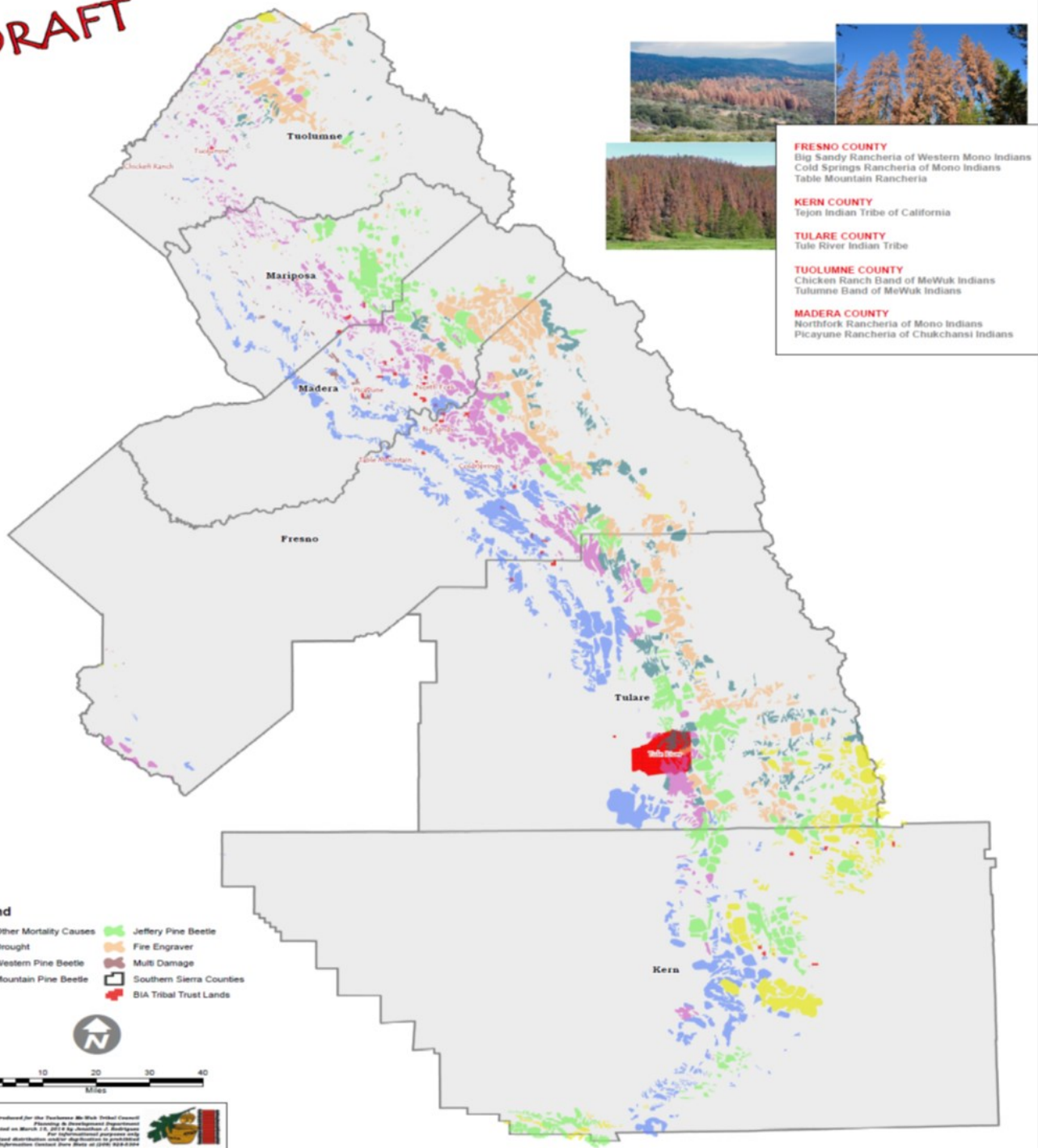
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Tribal Talk - Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians Tree Mortality Crisis - continue



Federally Recognized Indian Tribes in the Southern Sierra Nevada Mountains Affected by the Tree Mortality Disaster

DRAFT



Tree Mortality Taskforce and Resources

The Tree Mortality Task Force is comprised of state and federal agencies, local governments, utilities, and various stakeholders that will coordinate emergency protective actions and monitor ongoing conditions to address the vast tree mortality resulting from four years of unprecedented drought and the resulting bark beetle infestations across large regions of the State.

Management Objectives:

- Provide for public health and safety of persons and property in identified high hazard zones.
- Ensure efforts associated with implementation of the directives contained in the Governor's State of Emergency Proclamation remain coordinated.
- Ensure continuous communication among state, federal, and local governments, as well as with other non-governmental organizations assigned to the task force.
- Provide consistent and coordinated messaging between task force member agencies and the public.
- Manage projects and programs in a financially responsible and efficient manner.

Links:

http://www.fire.ca.gov/treetaskforce/downloads/Draft_Tree_Removal_Guidelines_3-1-16.pdf



Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Funding Resources

The following programs are administered through the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Division of Natural Resources which can be utilized for Tree Mortality issues. The due dates listed below ensure that requests are submitted to the National Office in a timely manner. Tribes should submit proposals and accomplishment reports prior to the dates listed below to allow the appropriate Bureau of Indian Affairs Office the opportunity to provide tribes technical assistance and allow for the tracking of tribal needs.

Project proposals will be accepted throughout the year. The due dates shown below reflect the dates that proposals must be received by the Regional Office (Forestry Technical service providers).

53 BIAM Supp.1 § 1.3-PAA). Tribes that have forestry programs under the jurisdiction of the Northern and Southern California Agency offices must submit their proposals to the appropriate office by the due dates set by those offices.

Proposals/Applications & Due Dates

Wildland Urban Interface Fuels Reduction Proposals	March 1
Hazardous Fuels Reduction Proposals	March 1
Forest Pest Management Proposals	August 1
Water Resources Program Proposals	August 30
Forest Management Inventory & Planning Proposals	September 15
Forest Development Action Plans & Proposals	September 15
Winter Operational Plans (ongoing timber harvest)	October 1
Endangered Species Compliance Act Proposals	November 1
Woodland Management Proposals	November 1
Forestry Youth Initiative	November 15
National Timber Harvest Initiative Proposals	November 15
Tribal Youth Initiative	January 1

If you have any questions please contact:

Gerald Jones, BIA Regional Forester

(916) 978-6076 Office

Gerald.jones@bia.gov

FirstNet/FEMA Regions IX and X

Message from Adam Geisler, Principal Point of Contact; Hon. (La Jolla Band of Luiseno Indians)

The First Responder Network Authority's (FirstNet) goal is to increase Indian Country's awareness about the nationwide public safety broadband network (NPSBN). I am hoping that this message will help tribes learn more about our plans and progress, as well as ways they can participate in the FirstNet process in their tribal lands. Informing and involving Indian Country is vital to the successful deployment and a key component of FirstNet's coordination with state single points of contact. The network is in the planning and design stages, and FirstNet is creating opportunities for the tribal community to shape how the network will work. Once built, the FirstNet network will be public safety's network.

On January 13, 2016 FirstNet issued its [Request for Proposals \(RFP\)](#) for the deployment of the FirstNet network, marking a major step forward in FirstNet's efforts to modernize communications for first responders and other public safety personnel across the U.S. The release of the RFP sets in motion the process for us to partner with an industry player or players to build and deploy the network – this is something that public safety has been looking forward to for many years.

With the RFP out, we are excited that public safety is now an award and construction cycle away from having their own network. As in years past, we will continue to consult with public safety to involve them in the process for building the FirstNet network in their states and territories (more info on that below). Going forward, FirstNet will ensure that the contract awardee will deliver on its promise with this network, so that public safety gets the absolute best network solution and customer service it deserves.

Key dates:

- ◇ Questions about the RFP were due by Feb. 12
- ◇ Capability statements are due by March 31
- ◇ Proposals are due by April 29
- ◇ The contract award is scheduled for the fourth quarter of 2016

For more info, visit <http://www.firstnet.gov/about/doing-business-firstnet>.

In December 2015, FirstNet announced plans for its consultation program in 2016. In general, the consultation meetings will seek to take a deeper dive into particulars about the establishment of FirstNet with public safety, and decision makers within each state and territory. We hope that you will get involved to provide your input into the State Plan process. Please feel free to reach out to me if I can help in any way to provide information and/or connect you with the right people at FirstNet. We look forward to continue working with you.

-Adam Geisler, POC

WHAT IS FIRSTNET?

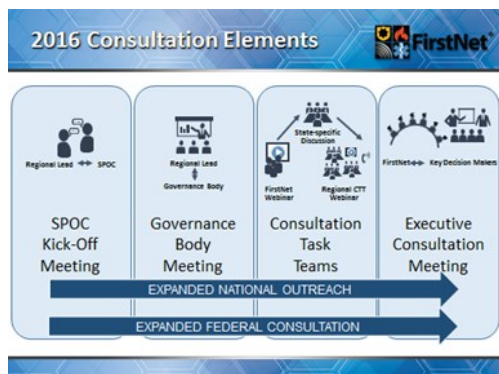
For those who may not know much about FirstNet, we are a federal agency that was established by Congress as an independent authority within the U.S. Department of Commerce. FirstNet was created in response to a 9/11 Commission recommendation for a dedicated communications network for the nation's first responders. Our mission is to construct a nationwide wireless broadband network (not unlike a nationwide carriers network) for sheriffs, police, fire, EMS, and other public safety agencies. FirstNet will provide public safety with access to all of today's (and tomorrow's) technology like MDCs, smartphones, tablets, LPR's, etc. over a network that is reliable, secure, and provides users with priority access when they need it the most during emergencies. The FirstNet interoperable network will be available to first responders in tribal reservations, states and territories, as well as to federal public safety agencies.

FirstNet – continue

WHAT IS CONSULTATION?

The Governor in each state and territory has appointed a single point of contact (SPOC) to coordinate the state's planning and outreach for FirstNet. This ongoing process is called "state consultation," and is one of FirstNet's top priorities as we begin to design how the network will be built. Through the state consultation process, FirstNet is gathering requirements from the public safety community to inform the development of a network plan. FirstNet encourages first responders to become active participants in the process and to coordinate with your state's SPOC. An updated list of all of these contacts is available on FirstNet's website, where you can also see upcoming meetings in your state or territory. <http://go.usa.gov/3GyMj>

CONSULTATION 2016



FirstNet officially launched its consultation program for the upcoming year, sending [planning packages](#) to the single points of contact (SPOCs) in all 56 states and territories. The package provides an overview of our consultation approach and includes a number of tools to assist the SPOCs with preparing for consultation, including a checklist and proposed agenda to help organize their kick-off meetings, as well as suggestions for executive-level consultation in their states and territories.

FirstNet has developed three goals to guide our consultation activities next year. They include: (1) expanding outreach and education with tribal, state/territory, local, and public safety entities, (2) obtaining state and territory input to inform State Plans and network deployment policies, processes, and procedures, and (3) preparing key decision makers for State Plan delivery and network deployment.

Overall, we have designed this consultation program to give the states and territories both the opportunity and the flexibility to provide input into the State Plan process. We are extremely pleased with how the initial consultation process worked in 2014 and 2015 and are looking forward to our ongoing consultation efforts with the states and territories in 2016 and beyond. For more information on FirstNet's Consultation efforts, check out the following videos on the [FirstNet YouTube Channel](#), as well as our new interactive map on www.FirstNet.gov which shows each state and territories progress in the FirstNet consultation process.

To date, 20 different engagements with FirstNet participation have occurred throughout California. In addition, California engaged stakeholders in a robust data collection effort collecting agency specific data from nearly 400 Public Safety Entities (PSEs) as well as aggregating all 9-1-1 call data from the past year. In total, this data provided valuable input to FirstNet's RFP representing California's updates to coverage objectives and user data. The pace and number of consultation and outreach engagements with California are expected to accelerate over the next 18 months, and are intended to move the state toward the realization of the NPSBN. In this phase, there will be expanded outreach, the creation of Consultation Task Teams (CTTs), focused discussion with key Governors' advisors, and activities focused on the creation and delivery of a State Plan to the Governor.

FirstNet—continue

WAYS TO CONNECT WITH FIRSTNET

In October of 2015, FirstNet hired two accomplished tribal members as full-time regional tribal government liaisons: Margaret Muhr and Adam Geisler. In addition to their impressive professional achievements, both Margaret and Adam arrive with a good understanding of FirstNet's importance to Indian Country, having served as delegates on our [Public Safety Advisory Committee \(PSAC\) Tribal Working Group](#), representing the International Association of Emergency Managers tribal caucus and Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association, respectively.



FirstNet Initial Consultation Meeting with California

Adam is an enrolled member of the [La Jolla Band of Luiseño Indians \(California\)](#) and has served in a number of leadership roles with the tribe—including as elected tribal council secretary, vice chairman of the Inter-Tribal Long-Term Recovery Foundation, and is contributor and Vice President for “The Red Guide to Recovery.” Adam has been in his elected office for the past seven years and has led his tribe through three federally declared disasters. At FirstNet, Adam will be the principal point of contact for tribes in FirstNet/FEMA regions IX and X. You may reach him at adam.geisler@firstnet.gov or via his mobile number: +1 202-631-1188.

Margaret is an enrolled member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation (Oklahoma) and formerly the director of emergency services for the [Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians \(California\)](#). She is also the first Native American graduate of the Naval Postgraduate School's Center for Homeland Defense and Security program and was an instructor for FEMA's Emergency Management Institute tribal curriculum. At FirstNet, Margaret will be the principal point of contact for tribes in FirstNet/FEMA regions I-VIII. You may reach her at margaret.muhr@firstnet.gov or via her mobile phone number: +1 202-738-8344.

If you have specific questions, please feel free to contact Adam or Margaret, or Carl Rebstock, FirstNet Tribal Outreach Lead at carl.rebstock@FirstNet.gov.



Integrating Access and Functional Needs in Emergency Management Planning

The purpose of OAFN is to identify the needs of people with disabilities and others with access and functional needs before, during, and after a disaster and to integrate disability needs and resources into emergency management systems. In short, that means we plan for the realities associated with disasters by integrating access and functional needs within everything we do, including training.

On January 6 – 7, 2016, the Office of Access and Functional Needs (OAFN) hosted an L-197 course in Middletown, CA with the Middletown Rancheria of Pomo Indians California in partnership with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and Cal OES' Office of Tribal Coordination.

The purpose of the 16-hour course was to provide tribal emergency managers and planners with the information necessary to use disability access and functional needs inclusive practices, and to provide updated skills and knowledge needed to prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies. OAFN staff had the opportunity to meet local tribal members, share resources, and complete training discussions.

Working with tribal, state and local partners to help ensure Cal OES can better prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the impacts of hazards and threats for all Californians is an immense opportunity and privilege. As these plans continue to evolve, OAFN looks forward to continuing to partner with our state, local, tribal and community stakeholders to advance this great work.



CalOES Office of Access and Functional Needs Staff (left to right: LaCandice McCray, Vance Taylor [center], Christopher Johnson, and Linell Walker)



We appreciate the hospitality and warmth of our hosts and recognize their deep commitment to integrating the needs of the whole community!

Integrating Access and Functional Needs in Emergency Management Planning—continue

In the event of an emergency evacuation, are you and your family prepared? If not, the time to plan is now!

When community evacuations become necessary, local officials use a variety of tools including television, radio, text alerts, emails and telephone calls to notify the public. Regardless of the methods used to communicate, it's important to understand that you may need to take action quickly. For this reason, and many more, it is essential to have a personal emergency plan.

As you develop your [personal emergency plan](#), consider how you will assemble your family, what supplies (including medicines) you may need and decide where you might go to evacuate (e.g. a friend's house, a hotel or the local shelter).

Try to plan for a few different disaster scenarios. If you use communication aids or assistive devices, make sure that you have charging cables, extra batteries, etc.

Don't underestimate the importance of [customizing your plan](#) based on the AFN-related communication, transportation, shelter and healthcare needs of you and your family. Having your health and medical information ready to go will assist in emergency evacuation and transport. Utilizing planning tools, such as [Vial of Life](#) are simple ways to coordinate and communicate medical needs with family, friends and first responders during emergencies.

As you plan, remember to work with your healthcare providers to

have medical records and supplies in place prior to an emergency. If you receive in-home assistance, personal assistance services or meals on wheels, work with your provider agency as you develop your plan.

Disasters and emergencies can happen on any day at any time. Preparing ahead of these events is critical to keeping you and your family safe and will help ensure your needs are met during evacuations.

If for more information regarding Access and Functional Needs, please email your comments or questions to:

OAFN@caloes.ca.gov.



Protecting Native American Sites during Drought, Wildland Fire and Flood Emergencies

After four years of well below average precipitation, California is facing one of the worst droughts in its history. As a result, Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. declared a drought state of emergency on January 17, 2014.

As water levels recede in the state's rivers, lakes and reservoirs, long submerged Native American cultural sites and cultural items have emerged.

Heightened risk of catastrophic wildfires during the drought means that Native American sacred places and sites of religious, ceremonial and cultural significance face greater threats of damage or destruction from fire. Previously hidden sites may be exposed, making them vulnerable to vandalism.

With the winter of 2015 – 2016 may come a strong El Niño event with the possibility of major flooding in parts of California. Flooding, with the possibility of mudslides, levee breaches, and erosion will have devastating effects on Native American cultural sites.

To be prepared for these events, it is important that California's resources agencies be informed about the laws and best practices regarding the protection of Native American cultural sites and cultural resources.

The Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) prepared a guide that provides information on the protection of Native American cultural resources in the face of natural disasters such as drought, wildfire, and flooding, as well as best Native American cultural resources management practices before, during and after these potentially catastrophic events.



This guide provides information on the federal and state statutes, regulations and executive orders that protect Native American human remains and associated grave goods, religious or ceremonial sites, sacred places, and archaeological sites so that agency staff will know what to do in the event these items are encountered in a natural disaster.

It will take the coordinated and concerted efforts of tribes, resources agencies, and agencies to protect California Native American human remains and cultural resources from the effects natural disasters such as drought, fire, and flood. It is our intention that this guide provides the tools to accomplish such protection.



Any questions or concerns about this guide should be directed to the Native American Heritage Commission, nahc@nahc.ca.gov, and (916) 373-3710.

[Protecting CA Native American Cultural Sites Guidelines](#)

Active Shooter -How to prepare and respond effectively to protect your community

An **active shooter** is an individuals actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a confined and populated area; in most cases, active shooters use firearm(s) but can also use knives, swords, vehicles other lethal weapons. There is no pattern or method to their selection of victims.

Active shooter situations are unpredictable and evolve quickly. Typically, the immediate deployment of law enforcement is required to stop the rampage and mitigate harm to victims.

Because active shooter situations are often over within 10 to 15 minutes, before law enforcement arrives on the scene, individuals must be prepared both mentally and physically to deal with an active shooter situation.

In the case of an active shooter entering your facility you can take several methods for survival. First and foremost is to know your surroundings in your facility. Situational awareness is the key for your survival. You can also work with co-workers to help secure your surroundings. These good practices can help you in preventing and dealing with an Active Shooter. Remember always- **RUN, HIDE, FIGHT!**



Good practices for coping with an active shooter situation:

- Be aware of your environment and any possible dangers.
- Take note of the two nearest exits in any facility you visit.
- Run and get out of the facility as fast and as quietly as you can, helping those around you.
- If you are in your office, stay there and secure the door, turn off the lights and silence your cell phone. You can call 911 and leave the line open for dispatch to hear.
- If you are in the hallway, get into a room and secure the door, follow the above instructions.
- As a last resort, attempt to take the active shooter down. When the shooter is at close range and you cannot flee, your chance of survival is much greater if you try to incapacitate him/her with any and all means necessary.

Remember to call 911 when it is safe to do so.

To help you with these good practices you can visit these two sites for training in active shooter situations no matter where you are.

<https://youtu.be/A11AgTJ7zuM>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oI5EoWBRYmo>

For more information contact:

Scott McCartney, MEP

Program Manager

Large Stadium Initiative (LSI)

Active Shooter Training Coordinator

Law Enforcement Division (CalOES)

Sacramento County Sheriff's Department

(916) 845-8619 Office

(916) 769-2520 Cell

Scott.McCartney@caloes.ca.gov

Significant Meetings, Trainings and Links

Significant Weekly/Monthly Calls:

Statewide Drought Call

Purpose of the call: National Weather Service and State Agencies report on current drought conditions. Update on eligible drought grant programs for Counties, Cities, Tribes and Water District. Tribes and Counties report on potential issues and impacts that they each may be experiencing due to drought conditions.

Once a month at 11:00AM (**next call is April 4th, 2016**)

866-768-8564

Code: 7526714#

Tribal Drought Leadership Monthly Call/Meeting

Purpose of the call: This call brings in State and Federal officials to provide the most current drought information. This also provides an opportunity for tribal leadership engagement for the Governor's Drought Task Force which on regular basis.

For information regarding this call, please email:

Heather.Hostler@gov.ca.gov

Calls highlighted below are facilitated by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA).

Purpose of the calls: To provide the most current information both at the National level and Statewide level on emergency management programs and initiatives.

BIA National Tribal Assistance Coordination Group (N TAC-G) Call

1st Thursday of each month

866-768-8564

Code: 7526714#

BIA California Tribal Assistance Coordination Group (CA TAC-G) Call

3rd Thursday of each month at 9:00AM

877-655-9025

Code: 4174120#

If your Tribal Community is interested in hosting trainings for 2016, please contact Denise Shemenski at

Denise.Shemenski@caloes.ca.gov.

Training Opportunities:

[Cal OES Training Bulletin](#)

[FEMA Independent Study](#)

[2016 EMI Tribal Curriculum Schedule](#)

[LO581—July 19-22, 2016](#)

[LO552—July 25-26, 2016](#)

Other helpful links:

[Indian Health Services](#)

[Prepare for Emergencies in Indian Country](#)

[FEMA Tribal Policies & Legislation](#)

[Emergency Preparedness and Response for Native American Cultural Resources](#)

[Cal OES Grants](#)

[Red Guide to Recovery](#)

Contact Cal OES Office of Tribal Coordination

Tribal Advisor

Denise M. Shemenski

Denise.Shemenski@caloes.ca.gov

(916) 845-8163

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(916) 845-8636

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